

**TITLE VII. POST-CONVICTION PROCEDURES**

1 **Rule 32. Sentencing and Judgment**

2 **(a) Definitions.** The following definitions apply under this  
3 rule:

4 **(1)** “Crime of violence or sexual abuse” means:

5 (A) a crime that involves the use, attempted use, or  
6 threatened use of physical force against another’s  
7 person or property; or

8 (B) a crime under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2241-2248 or §§ 2251-  
9 2257.

10 **(2)** “Victim” means an individual against whom the  
11 defendant committed an offense for which the court  
12 will impose sentence.

13 **(b) Time of Sentencing.**

14 **(1) *In General.*** The court must impose sentence without  
15 unnecessary delay.

16       **(2) *Changing Time Limits.*** The court may, for good  
 17               cause, change any time limits prescribed in this rule.

18       **(c) Presentence Investigation.**

19       **(1) *Required Investigation.***

20               **(A) *In General.*** The probation officer must conduct a  
 21               presentence investigation and submit a report to  
 22               the court before it imposes sentence unless:

23               (i) 18 U.S.C. § 3593(c) or another statute requires  
 24               otherwise; or

25               (ii) the court finds that the information in the  
 26               record enables it to meaningfully exercise its  
 27               sentencing authority under 18 U.S.C. § 3553,  
 28               and the court explains its finding on the  
 29               record.

30               **(B) *Restitution.*** If the law requires restitution, the  
 31               probation officer must conduct an investigation

32 and submit a report that contains sufficient  
33 information for the court to order restitution.

34 **(2) *Interviewing the Defendant.*** The probation officer  
35 who interviews a defendant as part of a presentence  
36 investigation must, on request, give the defendant's  
37 attorney notice and a reasonable opportunity to attend  
38 the interview.

39 **(d) Presentence Report.**

40 **(1) *Applying the Sentencing Guidelines.*** The presentence  
41 report must:

42 (A) identify all applicable guidelines and policy  
43 statements of the Sentencing Commission;

44 (B) calculate the defendant's offense level and criminal  
45 history category;

46 (C) state the resulting sentencing range and kinds of  
47 sentences available;

48 (D) identify any factor relevant to:

- 49 (i) the appropriate kind of sentence, or  
50 (ii) the appropriate sentence within the applicable  
51 sentencing range; and
- 52 (E) identify any basis for departing from the applicable  
53 sentencing range.
- 54 **(2) *Additional Information.*** The presentence report must  
55 also contain the following information:
- 56 (A) the defendant's history and characteristics,  
57 including:  
58 (i) any prior criminal record;  
59 (ii) the defendant's financial condition; and  
60 (iii) any circumstances affecting the defendant's  
61 behavior that may be helpful in imposing  
62 sentence or in correctional treatment;
- 63 (B) verified information, stated in a nonargumentative  
64 style, that assesses the financial, social,  
65 psychological, and medical impact on any

66 individual against whom the offense has been  
67 committed;

68 (C) when appropriate, the nature and extent of  
69 nonprison programs and resources available to the  
70 defendant;

71 (D) when the law provides for restitution, information  
72 sufficient for a restitution order;

73 (E) if the court orders a study under 18 U.S.C.  
74 § 3552(b), any resulting report and  
75 recommendation; and

76 (F) any other information that the court requires.

77 **(3) *Exclusions.*** The presentence report must exclude the  
78 following:

79 (A) any diagnoses that, if disclosed, might seriously  
80 disrupt a rehabilitation program;

81 (B) any sources of information obtained upon a  
82 promise of confidentiality; and

83 (C) any other information that, if disclosed, might  
84 result in physical or other harm to the defendant or  
85 others.

86 **(e) Disclosing the Report and Recommendation.**

87 **(1) *Time to Disclose.*** Unless the defendant has consented  
88 in writing, the probation officer must not submit a  
89 presentence report to the court or disclose its contents  
90 to anyone until the defendant has pleaded guilty or nolo  
91 contendere, or has been found guilty.

92 **(2) *Minimum Required Notice.*** The probation officer  
93 must give the presentence report to the defendant, the  
94 defendant's attorney, and an attorney for the  
95 government at least 35 days before sentencing unless  
96 the defendant waives this minimum period.

97 **(3) *Sentence Recommendation.*** By local rule or by order  
98 in a case, the court may direct the probation officer not

99 to disclose to anyone other than the court the officer's  
100 recommendation on the sentence.

101 **(f) Objecting to the Report.**

102 **(1) *Time to Object.*** Within 14 days after receiving the  
103 presentence report, the parties must state in writing any  
104 objections, including objections to material  
105 information, sentencing guideline ranges, and policy  
106 statements contained in or omitted from the report.

107 **(2) *Serving Objections.*** An objecting party must provide  
108 a copy of its objections to the opposing party and to the  
109 probation officer.

110 **(3) *Action on Objections.*** After receiving objections, the  
111 probation officer may meet with the parties to discuss  
112 the objections. The probation officer may then  
113 investigate further and revise the presentence report as  
114 appropriate.

115     **(g) Submitting the Report.** At least 7 days before sentencing,  
116             the probation officer must submit to the court and to the  
117             parties the presentence report and an addendum containing  
118             any unresolved objections, the grounds for those objections,  
119             and the probation officer's comments on them.

120     **(h) Notice of Possible Departure from Sentencing**  
121             **Guidelines.** Before the court may depart from the  
122             applicable sentencing range on a ground not identified for  
123             departure either in the presentence report or in a party's  
124             prehearing submission, the court must give the parties  
125             reasonable notice that it is contemplating such a departure.  
126             The notice must specify any ground on which the court is  
127             contemplating a departure.

128     **(i) Sentencing.**  
129             **(1) In General.** At sentencing, the court:



130 (A) must verify that the defendant and the defendant's  
 131 attorney have read and discussed the presentence  
 132 report and any addendum to the report;

133 (B) must give to the defendant and an attorney for the  
 134 government a written summary of — or summarize  
 135 in camera — any information excluded from the  
 136 presentence report under Rule 32(d)(3) on which  
 137 the court will rely in sentencing, and give them a  
 138 reasonable opportunity to comment on that  
 139 information;

140 (C) must allow the parties' attorneys to comment on  
 141 the probation officer's determinations and other  
 142 matters relating to an appropriate sentence; and

143 (D) may, for good cause, allow a party to make a new  
 144 objection at any time before sentence is imposed.

145 **(2) *Introducing Evidence; Producing a Statement.*** The  
 146 court may permit the parties to introduce evidence on

147 the objections. If a witness testifies at sentencing, Rule  
148 26.2(a)-(d) and (f) applies. If a party fails to comply  
149 with a Rule 26.2 order to produce a witness's statement,  
150 the court must not consider that witness's testimony.

151 **(3) *Court Determinations.*** At sentencing, the court:

152 (A) may accept any undisputed portion of the  
153 presentence report as a finding of fact;

154 (B) must — for any disputed portion of the  
155 presentence report or other controverted matter —  
156 rule on the dispute or determine that a ruling is  
157 unnecessary either because the matter will not  
158 affect sentencing, or because the court will not  
159 consider the matter in sentencing; and

160 (C) must append a copy of the court's determinations  
161 under this rule to any copy of the presentence  
162 report made available to the Bureau of Prisons.

163 **(1) *Opportunity to Speak.***

164 (A) *By a Party.* Before imposing sentence, the court  
165 must:

166 (i) provide the defendant's attorney an  
167 opportunity to speak on the defendant's  
168 behalf;

169 (ii) address the defendant personally in order to  
170 permit the defendant to speak or present any  
171 information to mitigate the sentence; and

172 (iii) provide an attorney for the government an  
173 opportunity to speak equivalent to that of the  
174 defendant's attorney.

175 (B) *By a Victim.* Before imposing sentence, the court  
176 must address any victim of a crime of violence or  
177 sexual abuse who is present at sentencing and must  
178 permit the victim to speak or submit any  
179 information about the sentence. Whether or not  
180 the victim is present, a victim's right to address the

181 court may be exercised by the following persons if  
182 present:

- 183 (i) a parent or legal guardian, if the victim is  
184 younger than 18 years or is incompetent; or  
185 (ii) one or more family members or relatives the  
186 court designates, if the victim is deceased or  
187 incapacitated.

188 (C) *In Camera Proceedings*. Upon a party's motion  
189 and for good cause, the court may hear in camera  
190 any statement made under Rule 32(i)(4).

191 **(j) Defendant's Right to Appeal.**

192 **(1) *Advice of a Right to Appeal.***

193 (A) *Appealing a Conviction*. If the defendant pleaded  
194 not guilty and was convicted, after sentencing the  
195 court must advise the defendant of the right to  
196 appeal the conviction.

197 (B) *Appealing a Sentence.* After sentencing —  
198 regardless of the defendant's plea — the court  
199 must advise the defendant of any right to appeal  
200 the sentence.

201 (C) *Appeal Costs.* The court must advise a defendant  
202 who is unable to pay appeal costs of the right to  
203 ask for permission to appeal in forma pauperis.

204 (2) *Clerk's Filing of Notice.* If the defendant so requests,  
205 the clerk must immediately prepare and file a notice of  
206 appeal on the defendant's behalf.

207 **(k) Judgment.**

208 (1) *In General.* In the judgment of conviction, the court  
209 must set forth the plea, the jury verdict or the court's  
210 findings, the adjudication, and the sentence. If the  
211 defendant is found not guilty or is otherwise entitled to  
212 be discharged, the court must so order. The judge must  
213 sign the judgment, and the clerk must enter it.

214           **(2) *Criminal Forfeiture.*** Forfeiture procedures are  
215           governed by Rule 32.2.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 32 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

The rule has been completely reorganized to make it easier to follow and apply. For example, the definitions in the rule have been moved to the first section and the sequencing of the sections generally follows the procedure for presentencing and sentencing procedures.

Revised Rule 32(a) contains definitions that currently appear in Rule 32(f). One substantive change was made in Rule 32(a)(2). The Committee expanded the definition of victims of crimes of violence or sexual abuse to include victims of child pornography under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251-2257 (child pornography and related offenses). The Committee considered those victims to be similar to victims of sexual offenses under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2241-2248, who already possess that right.

Revised Rule 32(d) has been amended to more clearly set out the contents of the presentence report concerning the application of the Sentencing Guidelines.

Current Rule 32(e), which addresses the ability of a defendant to withdraw a guilty plea, has been moved to Rule 11(e).

Rule 32(h) is a new provision that reflects *Burns v. United States*, 501 U.S. 129, 138-39 (1991). In *Burns*, the Court held that, before a sentencing court could depart upward on a ground not previously identified in the presentence report as a ground for departure, Rule 32 requires the court to give the parties reasonable notice that it is contemplating such a ruling and to identify the specific ground for the departure. The Court also indicated that because the procedural entitlements in Rule 32 apply equally to both parties, it was equally appropriate to frame the issue as whether notice is required before the sentencing court departs either upward or downward. *Id.* at 135, n.4.

Revised Rule 32(i)(3) addresses changes to current Rule 32(c)(1). Under the current rule, the court is required to “rule on any unresolved objections to the presentence report.” The rule does not specify, however, whether that provision should be read literally to mean every objection that might have been made to the report or only on those objections that might in some way actually affect the sentence. The Committee believed that a broad reading of the current rule might place an unreasonable burden on the court without providing any real benefit to the sentencing process. Revised Rule 32(i)(3) narrows the requirement for court findings to those instances when the objection addresses a “controverted matter.” If the objection satisfies that criterion, the court must either make a finding on the objection or decide that a finding is not required because the matter will not affect sentencing or that the matter will not be considered at all in sentencing.

Revised Rule 32(i)(4)(B) provides for the right of certain victims to address the court during sentencing. As noted, *supra*, revised Rule 32(a)(2) expands the definition of victims to include victims of crimes under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251-57 (child pornography and related offenses). Thus, they too will now be permitted to address the court.

Revised Rule 32(i)(1)(B) is intended to clarify language that currently exists in Rule 32(h)(3), that the court must inform both parties that the court will rely on information not in the presentence report and provide them with an opportunity to comment on the information.

Rule 32(i)(4)(C) includes a change concerning who may request an in camera proceeding. Under current Rule 32(c)(4), the parties must file a joint motion for an in camera proceeding to hear the statements by defense counsel, the defendant, the attorney for the government, or any victim. Under the revised rule, any party may move (for good cause) that the court hear in camera any statement—by a party or a victim—made under revised Rule 32(i)(4).

Finally, the Committee considered, but did not adopt, an amendment that would have required the court to rule on any “unresolved objection to a material matter” in the presentence report, whether or not the court will consider it in imposing an appropriate sentence. The amendment was considered because an unresolved objection that has no impact on determining a sentence under the Sentencing Guidelines may affect other important post-sentencing decisions. For example, the Bureau of Prisons consults the presentence report in deciding where a defendant will actually serve his or her sentence of confinement. *See A Judicial Guide to the Federal Bureau of Prisons*, 11 (United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons 1995) (noting that the “Bureau relies primarily on the Presentence Investigator Report ...”). And as some courts have recognized, Rule 32 was intended to guard against adverse consequences of a statement in the presentence report that the court may have been found to be false. *United States v. Velasquez*, 748 F.2d 972, 974 (8th Cir. 1984) (rule designed to protect against evil that false allegation that defendant was notorious alien smuggler would affect defendant for years to come); *see also United States v.*



*Brown*, 715 F.2d 387, 389 n.2 (5th Cir. 1983) (sentencing report affects “place of incarceration, chances for parole, and relationships with social service and correctional agencies after release from prison”).

To avoid unduly burdening the court, the Committee elected not to require resolution of objections that go only to service of sentence. However, because of the presentence report’s critical role in post-sentence administration, counsel may wish to point out to the court those matters that are typically considered by the Bureau of Prisons in designating the place of confinement. For example, the Bureau considers:

the type of offense, the length of sentence, the defendant’s age, the defendant’s release residence, the need for medical or other special treatment, and any placement recommendation made by the court.

*A Judicial Guide to the Federal Bureau of Prisons*, *supra*, at 11. Further, a question as to whether or not the defendant has a “drug problem” could have an impact on whether the defendant would be eligible for prison drug abuse treatment programs. 18 U.S.C. § 3621(e) (Substance abuse treatment).

If counsel objects to material in the presentence report that could affect the defendant’s service of sentence, the court may resolve the objection, but is not required to do so.

**Rule 32.1. Revoking or Modifying Probation or Supervised Release**

1 **(a) Initial Appearance.**

2 **(1) *Person In Custody.*** A person held in custody for  
3 violating probation or supervised release must be taken  
4 without unnecessary delay before a magistrate judge.

5 **(A)** If the person is held in custody in the district where  
6 an alleged violation occurred, the initial  
7 appearance must be in that district.

8 **(B)** If the person is held in custody in a district other  
9 than where an alleged violation occurred, the initial  
10 appearance must be in that district, or in an  
11 adjacent district if the appearance can occur more  
12 promptly there.

13 **(2) *Upon a Summons.*** When a person appears in response  
14 to a summons for violating probation or supervised

15 release, a magistrate judge must proceed under this  
16 rule.

17 **(3) *Advice.*** The judge must inform the person of the  
18 following:

19 (A) the alleged violation of probation or supervised  
20 release;

21 (B) the person's right to retain counsel or to request  
22 that counsel be appointed if the person cannot  
23 obtain counsel; and

24 (C) the person's right, if held in custody, to a  
25 preliminary hearing under Rule 32.1(b)(1).

26 **(4) *Appearance in the District With Jurisdiction.*** If the  
27 person is arrested or appears in the district that has  
28 jurisdiction to conduct a revocation hearing — either  
29 originally or by transfer of jurisdiction — the court  
30 must proceed under Rule 32.1(b)–(e).

- 31       **(5) *Appearance in a District Lacking Jurisdiction.*** If the  
32               person is arrested or appears in a district that does not  
33               have jurisdiction to conduct a revocation hearing, the  
34               magistrate judge must:
- 35       (A) if the alleged violation occurred in the district of  
36               arrest, conduct a preliminary hearing under Rule  
37               32.1(b) and either:
- 38               (i) transfer the person to the district that has  
39               jurisdiction, if the judge finds probable cause  
40               to believe that a violation occurred; or
- 41               (ii) dismiss the proceedings and so notify the  
42               court that has jurisdiction, if the judge finds  
43               no probable cause to believe that a violation  
44               occurred; or
- 45       (B) if the alleged violation did not occur in the district  
46               of arrest, transfer the person to the district that has  
47               jurisdiction if:

48 (i) the government produces certified copies of  
49 the judgment, warrant, and warrant  
50 application; and

51 (ii) the judge finds that the person is the same  
52 person named in the warrant.

53 **(6) *Release or Detention.*** The magistrate judge may  
54 release or detain the person under 18 U.S.C. § 3143(a)  
55 pending further proceedings. The burden of establishing  
56 that the person will not flee or pose a danger to any  
57 other person or to the community rests with the person.

58 **(b) Revocation.**

59 **(1) *Preliminary Hearing.***

60 (A) *In General.* If a person is in custody for violating  
61 a condition of probation or supervised release, a  
62 magistrate judge must promptly conduct a hearing  
63 to determine whether there is probable cause to

64 believe that a violation occurred. The person may  
65 waive the hearing.

66 (B) *Requirements.* The hearing must be recorded by a  
67 court reporter or by a suitable recording device.  
68 The judge must give the person:

69 (i) notice of the hearing and its purpose, the  
70 alleged violation, and the person's right to  
71 retain counsel or to request that counsel be  
72 appointed if the person cannot obtain counsel;

73 (ii) an opportunity to appear at the hearing and  
74 present evidence; and

75 (iii) upon request, an opportunity to question any  
76 adverse witness, unless the judge determines  
77 that the interest of justice does not require the  
78 witness to appear.

79 (C) *Referral.* If the judge finds probable cause, the  
80 judge must conduct a revocation hearing. If the

81 judge does not find probable cause, the judge must  
82 dismiss the proceeding.

83 **(2) *Revocation Hearing.*** Unless waived by the person, the  
84 court must hold the revocation hearing within a  
85 reasonable time in the district having jurisdiction. The  
86 person is entitled to:

87 (A) written notice of the alleged violation;

88 (B) disclosure of the evidence against the person;

89 (C) an opportunity to appear, present evidence, and  
90 question any adverse witness unless the court  
91 determines that the interest of justice does not  
92 require the witness to appear; and

93 (D) notice of the person's right to retain counsel or to  
94 request that counsel be appointed if the person  
95 cannot obtain counsel.

95     **(c) Modification.**

96           **(1) *In General.*** Before modifying the conditions of  
97           probation or supervised release, the court must hold a  
98           hearing, at which the person has the right to counsel.

99           **(2) *Exceptions.*** A hearing is not required if:

- 100           (A) the person waives the hearing; or  
101           (B) the relief sought is favorable to the person and  
102           does not extend the term of probation or of  
103           supervised release; and  
104           (C) an attorney for the government has received notice  
105           of the relief sought, has had a reasonable  
106           opportunity to object, and has not done so.

107     **(d) Disposition of the Case.** The court's disposition of the case  
108     is governed by 18 U.S.C. § 3563 and § 3565 (probation) and  
109     § 3583 (supervised release).

110     **(e) Producing a Statement.** Rule 26.2(a)–(d) and (f) applies  
111     at a hearing under this rule. If a party fails to comply with a



112 Rule 26.2 order to produce a witness's statement, the court  
113 must not consider that witness's testimony.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 32.1 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

Rule 32.1 has been completely revised and expanded. The Committee believed that it was important to spell out more completely in this rule the various procedural steps that must be met when dealing with a revocation or modification of probation or supervised release. To that end, some language formerly located in Rule 40 has been moved to revised Rule 32.1. Throughout the rule, the terms “magistrate judge,” and “court” (*see* revised Rule 1(b)(Definitions)) are used to reflect that in revocation cases, initial proceedings in both felony and misdemeanor cases will normally be conducted before a magistrate judge, although a district judge may also conduct them. But a district judge must make the revocation decision if the offense of conviction was a felony. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3401(i) (recognizing that district judge may designate a magistrate judge to conduct a hearing and submit proposed findings of fact and recommendations).

Revised Rule 32.1(a)(1)-(4) is new material. Presently, there is no provision in the rules for conducting initial appearances for defendants charged with violating probation or supervised release—although some districts apply such procedures. Although the rule labels these proceedings as initial appearances, the

Committee believed that it was best to separate those proceedings from Rule 5 proceedings, because the procedures differ for persons who are charged with violating conditions of probation or supervised release.

The Committee is also aware that, in some districts, it is not the practice to have an initial appearance for a revocation of probation or supervised release proceeding. Although Rule 32.1(a) will require such an appearance, nothing in the rule prohibits a court from combining the initial appearance proceeding, if convened consistent with the “without unnecessary delay” time requirement of the rule, with the preliminary hearing under Rule 32.1(b).

Revised Rule 32.1(a)(5) is derived from current Rule 40(d).

Revised Rule 32.1(a)(6), which is derived from current Rule 46(c), provides that the defendant bears the burden of showing that he or she will not flee or pose a danger pending a hearing on the revocation of probation or supervised release. The Committee believes that the new language is not a substantive change because it makes no change in practice.

Rule 32.1(b)(1)(B)(iii) and Rule 32.1(b)(2)(C) address the ability of a releasee to question adverse witnesses at the preliminary and revocation hearings. Those provisions recognize that the court should apply a balancing test at the hearing itself when considering the releasee’s asserted right to cross-examine adverse witnesses. The court is to balance the person’s interest in the constitutionally guaranteed right to confrontation against the government’s good cause for denying it. *See, e.g., Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471, 489 (1972); *United States v. Comito*, 177 F.3d 1166 (9th Cir. 1999); *United States v. Walker*, 117 F.3d 417 (9th Cir. 1997); *United States v. Zentgraf*, 20 F.3d 906 (8th Cir. 1994).

Rule 32.1(c)(2)(A) permits the person to waive a hearing to modify the conditions of probation or supervised release. Although that language is new to the rule, the Committee believes that it reflects current practice.

The remainder of revised Rule 32.1 is derived from the current Rule 32.1.

### **Rule 32.2. Criminal Forfeiture**

1    **(a) Notice to the Defendant.** A court must not enter a  
2       judgment of forfeiture in a criminal proceeding unless the  
3       indictment or information contains notice to the defendant  
4       that the government will seek the forfeiture of property as  
5       part of any sentence in accordance with the applicable  
6       statute.

7    **(b) Entering a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture.**

8       **(1) *In General.*** As soon as practicable after a verdict or  
9       finding of guilty, or after a plea of guilty or nolo  
10      contendere is accepted, on any count in an indictment  
11      or information regarding which criminal forfeiture is  
12      sought, the court must determine what property is

13           subject to forfeiture under the applicable statute. If the  
14           government seeks forfeiture of specific property, the  
15           court must determine whether the government has  
16           established the requisite nexus between the property  
17           and the offense. If the government seeks a personal  
18           money judgment, the court must determine the amount  
19           of money that the defendant will be ordered to pay.  
20           The court's determination may be based on evidence  
21           already in the record, including any written plea  
22           agreement or, if the forfeiture is contested, on evidence  
23           or information presented by the parties at a hearing  
24           after the verdict or finding of guilt.

25           **(2) *Preliminary Order.*** If the court finds that property is  
26           subject to forfeiture, it must promptly enter a  
27           preliminary order of forfeiture setting forth the amount  
28           of any money judgment or directing the forfeiture of  
29           specific property without regard to any third party's

30 interest in all or part of it. Determining whether a third  
31 party has such an interest must be deferred until any  
32 third party files a claim in an ancillary proceeding  
33 under Rule 32.2(c).

34 **(1) *Seizing Property.*** The entry of a preliminary order of  
35 forfeiture authorizes the Attorney General (or a  
36 designee) to seize the specific property subject to  
37 forfeiture; to conduct any discovery the court considers  
38 proper in identifying, locating, or disposing of the  
39 property; and to commence proceedings that comply  
40 with any statutes governing third-party rights. At  
41 sentencing — or at any time before sentencing if the  
42 defendant consents — the order of forfeiture becomes  
43 final as to the defendant and must be made a part of the  
44 sentence and be included in the judgment. The court  
45 may include in the order of forfeiture conditions

46 reasonably necessary to preserve the property's value  
47 pending any appeal.

48 **(4) *Jury Determination.*** Upon a party's request in a case  
49 in which a jury returns a verdict of guilty, the jury must  
50 determine whether the government has established the  
51 requisite nexus between the property and the offense  
52 committed by the defendant.

53 **(c) Ancillary Proceeding; Entering a Final Order of**  
54 **Forfeiture.**

55 **(1) *In General.*** If, as prescribed by statute, a third party  
56 files a petition asserting an interest in the property to be  
57 forfeited, the court must conduct an ancillary  
58 proceeding, but no ancillary proceeding is required to  
59 the extent that the forfeiture consists of a money  
60 judgment.

61 (A) In the ancillary proceeding, the court may, on  
62 motion, dismiss the petition for lack of standing,

63 for failure to state a claim, or for any other lawful  
 64 reason. For purposes of the motion, the facts set  
 65 forth in the petition are assumed to be true.

66 (B) After disposing of any motion filed under Rule  
 67 32.2(c)(1)(A) and before conducting a hearing on  
 68 the petition, the court may permit the parties to  
 69 conduct discovery in accordance with the Federal  
 70 Rules of Civil Procedure if the court determines  
 71 that discovery is necessary or desirable to resolve  
 72 factual issues. When discovery ends, a party may  
 73 move for summary judgment under Federal Rule  
 74 of Civil Procedure 56.

75 **(2) *Entering a Final Order.*** When the ancillary  
 76 proceeding ends, the court must enter a final order of  
 77 forfeiture by amending the preliminary order as  
 78 necessary to account for any third-party rights. If no  
 79 third party files a timely petition, the preliminary order

80 becomes the final order of forfeiture if the court finds  
81 that the defendant (or any combination of defendants  
82 convicted in the case) had an interest in the property  
83 that is forfeitable under the applicable statute. The  
84 defendant may not object to the entry of the final order  
85 on the ground that the property belongs, in whole or in  
86 part, to a codefendant or third party; nor may a third  
87 party object to the final order on the ground that the  
88 third party had an interest in the property.

89 **(3) *Multiple Petitions.*** If multiple third-party petitions are  
90 filed in the same case, an order dismissing or granting  
91 one petition is not appealable until rulings are made on  
92 all the petitions, unless the court determines that there  
93 is no just reason for delay.

94 **(4) *Ancillary Proceeding Not Part of Sentencing.*** An  
95 ancillary proceeding is not part of sentencing.



96 **(d) Stay Pending Appeal.** If a defendant appeals from a  
 97 conviction or an order of forfeiture, the court may stay the  
 98 order of forfeiture on terms appropriate to ensure that the  
 99 property remains available pending appellate review. A stay  
 100 does not delay the ancillary proceeding or the determination  
 101 of a third party's rights or interests. If the court rules in  
 102 favor of any third party while an appeal is pending, the court  
 103 may amend the order of forfeiture but must not transfer any  
 104 property interest to a third party until the decision on appeal  
 105 becomes final, unless the defendant consents in writing or  
 106 on the record.

107 **(e) Subsequently Located Property; Substitute Property.**

108 **(1) *In General.*** On the government's motion, the court  
 109 may at any time enter an order of forfeiture or amend  
 110 an existing order of forfeiture to include property that:

111 (A) is subject to forfeiture under an existing order of  
112 forfeiture but was located and identified after that  
113 order was entered; or

114 (B) is substitute property that qualifies for forfeiture  
115 under an applicable statute.

116 **(2) *Procedure.*** If the government shows that the property  
117 is subject to forfeiture under Rule 32.2(e)(1), the court  
118 must:

119 (A) enter an order forfeiting that property, or amend an  
120 existing preliminary or final order to include it;  
121 and

122 (B) if a third party files a petition claiming an interest  
123 in the property, conduct an ancillary proceeding  
124 under Rule 32.2(c).

125 **(3) *Jury Trial Limited.*** There is no right to a jury trial  
126 under Rule 32.2(e).

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 32.2 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

**Rule 33. New Trial**

1   **(a) Defendant's Motion.** Upon the defendant's motion, the  
2       court may vacate any judgment and grant a new trial if the  
3       interest of justice so requires. If the case was tried without  
4       a jury, the court may take additional testimony and enter a  
5       new judgment.

6   **(b) Time to File.**

7       **(1) Newly Discovered Evidence.** Any motion for a new  
8       trial grounded on newly discovered evidence must be  
9       filed within 3 years after the verdict or finding of guilty.  
10       If an appeal is pending, the court may not grant a  
11       motion for a new trial until the appellate court remands  
12       the case.

13       **(2) *Other Grounds.*** Any motion for a new trial grounded  
14               on any reason other than newly discovered evidence  
15               must be filed within 7 days after the verdict or finding  
16               of guilty, or within such further time as the court sets  
17               during the 7-day period.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 33 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

#### **Rule 34. Arresting Judgment**

1       **(a) In General.** Upon the defendant's motion or on its own, the  
2               court must arrest judgment if:  
3               **(1)** the indictment or information does not charge an  
4               offense; or  
5               **(2)** the court does not have jurisdiction of the charged  
6               offense.

7     **(b) Time to File.** The defendant must move to arrest judgment  
 8           within 7 days after the court accepts a verdict or finding of  
 9           guilty, or after a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or within  
 10          such further time as the court sets during the 7-day period.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 34 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

#### **Rule 35. Correcting or Reducing a Sentence**

1     **(a) Correcting Clear Error.** Within 7 days after sentencing,  
 2           the court may correct a sentence that resulted from  
 3           arithmetical, technical, or other clear error.

4     **(b) Reducing a Sentence for Substantial Assistance.**

5         **(1) In General.** Upon the government's motion made  
 6           within one year of sentencing, the court may reduce a  
 7           sentence if:

8 (A) the defendant, after sentencing, provided  
9 substantial assistance in investigating or  
10 prosecuting another person; and

11 (B) reducing the sentence accords with the Sentencing  
12 Commission's guidelines and policy statements.

13 **(2) *Later Motion.*** Upon the government's motion made  
14 more than one year after sentencing, the court may  
15 reduce a sentence if the defendant's substantial  
16 assistance involved:

17 (A) information not known to the defendant until one  
18 year or more after sentencing;

19 (A) information provided by the defendant to the  
20 government within one year of sentencing, but  
21 which did not become useful to the government  
22 until more than one year after sentencing; or

23 (C) information the usefulness of which could not  
24 reasonably have been anticipated by the defendant

25                   until more than one year after sentencing and  
 26                   which was promptly provided to the government  
 27                   after its usefulness was reasonably apparent to the  
 28                   defendant.

29           **(3) *Evaluating Substantial Assistance.*** In evaluating  
 30           whether the defendant has provided substantial  
 31           assistance, the court may consider the defendant's  
 32           presentence assistance.

33           **(4) *Below Statutory Minimum.*** When acting under  
 34           Rule 35(b), the court may reduce the sentence to a level  
 35           below the minimum sentence established by statute.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 35 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

The Committee deleted current Rule 35(a) (Correction on Remand). Congress added that rule, which currently addresses the issue of the district court's actions following a remand on the issue of

sentencing, in the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. Pub. L. No. 98-473. The rule cross-references 18 U.S.C. § 3742, also enacted in 1984, which provides detailed guidance on the various options available to the appellate courts in addressing sentencing errors. In reviewing both provisions, the Committee concluded that Rule 35(a) was no longer needed. First, the statute clearly covers the subject matter and second, it is not necessary to address an issue that would be very clear to a district court following a decision by a court of appeals.

Former Rule 35(c), which addressed the authority of the court to correct certain errors in the sentence, is now located in Rule 35(a). In the current version of Rule 35(c), the sentencing court is authorized to correct errors in the sentence if the correction is made within seven days of the imposition of the sentence. The revised rule uses the term “sentencing.” No change in practice is intended by using that term.

A substantive change has been made in revised Rule 35(b). Under current Rule 35(b), if the government believes that a sentenced defendant has provided substantial assistance in investigating or prosecuting another person, it may move the court to reduce the original sentence; ordinarily, the motion must be filed within one year of sentencing. In 1991, the rule was amended to permit the government to file such motions after more than one year had elapsed if the government could show that the defendant’s substantial assistance involved “information or evidence not known by the defendant” until more than one year had elapsed. The current rule, however, did not address the question whether a motion to reduce a sentence could be filed and granted in those instances when the defendant’s substantial assistance involved information provided by the defendant within one year of sentence but that did not become useful to the government until more than one year after sentencing (e.g., when the government starts an investigation to which the



information is pertinent). The courts were split on the issue. Compare *United States v. Morales*, 52 F.3d 7 (1st Cir. 1995) (permitting filing and granting of motion) with *United States v. Orozco*, 160 F.3d 1309 (11th Cir. 1998) (denying relief and citing cases). Although the court in *Orozco* felt constrained to deny relief under Rule 35(b), the court urged an amendment of the rule to:

address the apparent unforeseen situation presented in this case where a convicted defendant provides information to the government prior to the expiration of the jurisdictional, one-year period from sentence imposition, but that information does not become useful to the government until more than one year after sentence imposition. *Id.* at 1316, n. 13.

Nor does the existing rule appear to allow a substantial assistance motion under equally deserving circumstances where a defendant, who fails to provide information within one year of sentencing because its usefulness could not reasonably have been anticipated, later provides the information to the government promptly upon its usefulness becoming apparent.

Revised Rule 35(b) is intended to address both of those situations. First, Rule 35(b)(2)(B) makes clear that a sentence reduction motion is permitted in those instances identified by the court in *Orozco*. Second, Rule 35(b)(2)(C) recognizes that a post-sentence motion is also appropriate in those instances where the defendant did not provide any information within one year of sentencing, because its usefulness was not reasonably apparent to the defendant during that period. But the rule requires that once the defendant realizes the importance of the information the defendant promptly provide the information to the government. What

constitutes “prompt” notification will depend on the circumstances of the case.

The rule’s one-year restriction generally serves the important interests of finality and of creating an incentive for defendants to provide promptly what useful information they might have. Thus, the proposed amendment would not eliminate the one-year requirement as a generally operative element. But where the usefulness of the information is not reasonably apparent until a year or more after sentencing, no sound purpose is served by the current rule’s removal of any incentive to provide that information to the government one year or more after the sentence (or if previously provided, for the government to seek to reward the defendant) when its relevance and substantiality become evident.

By using the term “involves” in Rule 35(b)(2) in describing the sort of information that may result in substantial assistance, the Committee recognizes that a court does not lose jurisdiction to consider a Rule 35(b)(2) motion simply because other information, not covered by any of the three provisions in Rule 35(b)(2), is presented in the motion.

### **Rule 36. Clerical Error**

- 1       After giving any notice it considers appropriate, the court
- 2       may at any time correct a clerical error in a judgment, order, or
- 3       other part of the record, or correct an error in the record arising
- 4       from oversight or omission.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 36 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

**Rule 37. [Reserved]****Rule 38. Staying a Sentence or a Disability**

1   **(a) Death Sentence.** The court must stay a death sentence if  
2       the defendant appeals the conviction or sentence.

3   **(b) Imprisonment.**

4       **(1) Stay Granted.** If the defendant is released pending  
5       appeal, the court must stay a sentence of imprisonment.

6       **(2) Stay Denied; Place of Confinement.** If the defendant  
7       is not released pending appeal, the court may  
8       recommend to the Attorney General that the defendant  
9       be confined near the place of the trial or appeal for a  
10      period reasonably necessary to permit the defendant to  
11      assist in preparing the appeal.

12     **(c) Fine.** If the defendant appeals, the district court, or the  
13         court of appeals under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure  
14         8, may stay a sentence to pay a fine or a fine and costs. The  
15         court may stay the sentence on any terms considered  
16         appropriate and may require the defendant to:

- 17         **(1)** deposit all or part of the fine and costs into the district  
18             court's registry pending appeal;
- 19         **(2)** post a bond to pay the fine and costs; or
- 20         **(3)** submit to an examination concerning the defendant's  
21             assets and, if appropriate, order the defendant to refrain  
22             from dissipating assets.

23     **(d) Probation.** If the defendant appeals, the court may stay a  
24         sentence of probation. The court must set the terms of any  
25         stay.

26     **(e) Restitution and Notice to Victims.**

- 27         **(1) In General.** If the defendant appeals, the district court,  
28         or the court of appeals under Federal Rule of Appellate

29 Procedure 8, may stay — on any terms considered  
 30 appropriate — any sentence providing for restitution  
 31 under 18 U.S.C. § 3556 or notice under 18 U.S.C.  
 32 § 3555.

33 **(2) *Ensuring Compliance.*** The court may issue any order  
 34 reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with a  
 35 restitution order or a notice order after disposition of an  
 36 appeal, including:

- 37 (A) a restraining order;
- 38 (B) an injunction;
- 39 (C) an order requiring the defendant to deposit all or  
 40 part of any monetary restitution into the district  
 41 court's registry; or
- 42 (D) an order requiring the defendant to post a bond.

43 **(f) Forfeiture.** A stay of a forfeiture order is governed by Rule  
 44 32.2(d).

45     **(g) Disability.** If the defendant’s conviction or sentence creates  
46             a civil or employment disability under federal law, the  
47             district court, or the court of appeals under Federal Rule of  
48             Appellate Procedure 8, may stay the disability pending  
49             appeal on any terms considered appropriate. The court may  
50             issue any order reasonably necessary to protect the interest  
51             represented by the disability pending appeal, including a  
52             restraining order or an injunction.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 38 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

The reference to Appellate Rule 9(b) is deleted. The Committee believed that the reference was unnecessary and its deletion was not intended to be substantive in nature.

#### **Rule 39. [Reserved]**

**TITLE VIII. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL  
PROCEEDINGS**

**Rule 40. Arrest for Failing to Appear in Another District**

- 1   **(a) In General.** If a person is arrested under a warrant issued
- 2       in another district for failing to appear — as required by the
- 3       terms of that person’s release under 18 U.S.C. §§ 3141-3156
- 4       or by a subpoena — the person must be taken without
- 5       unnecessary delay before a magistrate judge in the district
- 6       of the arrest.
- 7   **(b) Proceedings.** The judge must proceed under Rule 5(c)(3)
- 8       as applicable.
- 9   **(c) Release or Detention Order.** The judge may modify any
- 10       previous release or detention order issued in another district,
- 11       but must state in writing the reasons for doing so.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 40 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

Rule 40 has been completely revised. The Committee believed that it would be much clearer and more helpful to locate portions of Rule 40 in Rules 5 (initial appearances), 5.1 (preliminary hearings), and 32.1 (revocation or modification of probation or supervised release). Accordingly, current Rule 40(a) has been relocated in Rules 5 and 5.1. Current Rule 40(b) has been relocated in Rule 5(c)(2)(B) and current Rule 40(c) has been moved to Rule 5(c)(2)(F).

Current Rule 40(d) has been relocated in Rule 32.1(a)(5). The first sentence of current Rule 40(e) is now located in revised Rule 40(a). The second sentence of current Rule 40(e) is now in revised Rule 40(b) and current Rule 40(f) is revised Rule 40(c).

#### **Rule 41. Search and Seizure**

1     **(a) Scope and Definitions.**

2             **(1) *Scope.*** This rule does not modify any statute regulating  
3             search or seizure, or the issuance and execution of a  
4             search warrant in special circumstances.

5             **(2) *Definitions.*** The following definitions apply under this  
6             rule:

7             **(A)** “Property” includes documents, books, papers, any  
8             other tangible objects, and information.



9 (B) “Daytime” means the hours between 6:00 a.m. and  
10 10:00 p.m. according to local time.

11 (C) “Federal law enforcement officer” means a  
12 government agent (other than an attorney for the  
13 government) who is engaged in enforcing the  
14 criminal laws and is within any category of officers  
15 authorized by the Attorney General to request a  
16 search warrant.

17 **(b) Authority to Issue a Warrant.** At the request of a federal  
18 law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government:

19 **(1)** a magistrate judge with authority in the district — or if  
20 none is reasonably available, a judge of a state court of  
21 record in the district — has authority to issue a warrant  
22 to search for and seize a person or property located  
23 within the district;

24 **(2)** a magistrate judge with authority in the district has  
25 authority to issue a warrant for a person or property

26 outside the district if the person or property is located  
27 within the district when the warrant is issued but might  
28 move or be moved outside the district before the  
29 warrant is executed; and

30 **(3)** a magistrate judge — in an investigation of domestic  
31 terrorism or international terrorism (as defined in 18  
32 U.S.C. § 2331) — having authority in any district in  
33 which activities related to the terrorism may have  
34 occurred, may issue a warrant for a person or property  
35 within or outside that district.

36 **(c) Persons or Property Subject to Search or Seizure.** A  
37 warrant may be issued for any of the following:

38 **(1)** evidence of a crime;

39 **(2)** contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally  
40 possessed;

41 **(3)** property designed for use, intended for use, or used in  
42 committing a crime; or

43 (4) a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully  
44 restrained.

45 (d) **Obtaining a Warrant.**

46 (1) ***Probable Cause.*** After receiving an affidavit or other  
47 information, a magistrate judge or a judge of a state  
48 court of record must issue the warrant if there is  
49 probable cause to search for and seize a person or  
50 property under Rule 41(c).

51 (2) ***Requesting a Warrant in the Presence of a Judge.***

52 (A) *Warrant on an Affidavit.* When a federal law  
53 enforcement officer or an attorney for the  
54 government presents an affidavit in support of a  
55 warrant, the judge may require the affiant to appear  
56 personally and may examine under oath the affiant  
57 and any witness the affiant produces.

58 (B) *Warrant on Sworn Testimony.* The judge may  
59 wholly or partially dispense with a written affidavit

60                   and base a warrant on sworn testimony if doing so  
61                   is reasonable under the circumstances.

62           (C) *Recording Testimony.* Testimony taken in support  
63           of a warrant must be recorded by a court reporter  
64           or by a suitable recording device, and the judge  
65           must file the transcript or recording with the clerk,  
66           along with any affidavit.

67           **(3) *Requesting a Warrant by Telephonic or Other Means.***

68           (A) *In General.* A magistrate judge may issue a  
69           warrant based on information communicated by  
70           telephone or other appropriate means, including  
71           facsimile transmission.

72           (B) *Recording Testimony.* Upon learning that an  
73           applicant is requesting a warrant, a magistrate  
74           judge must:

75 (i) place under oath the applicant and any person  
 76 on whose testimony the application is based;  
 77 and

78 (ii) make a verbatim record of the conversation  
 79 with a suitable recording device, if available,  
 80 or by a court reporter, or in writing.

81 (C) *Certifying Testimony.* The magistrate judge must  
 82 have any recording or court reporter's notes  
 83 transcribed, certify the transcription's accuracy,  
 84 and file a copy of the record and the transcription  
 85 with the clerk. Any written verbatim record must  
 86 be signed by the magistrate judge and filed with  
 87 the clerk.

88 (D) *Suppression Limited.* Absent a finding of bad  
 89 faith, evidence obtained from a warrant issued  
 90 under Rule 41(d)(3)(A) is not subject to  
 91 suppression on the ground that issuing the warrant

92                   in that manner was unreasonable under the  
93                   circumstances.

94   **(e) Issuing the Warrant.**

95       **(1) *In General.*** The magistrate judge or a judge of a state  
96       court of record must issue the warrant to an officer  
97       authorized to execute it.

98       **(2) *Contents of the Warrant.*** The warrant must identify  
99       the person or property to be searched, identify any  
100       person or property to be seized, and designate the  
101       magistrate judge to whom it must be returned. The  
102       warrant must command the officer to:

103       (A) execute the warrant within a specified time no  
104       longer than 10 days;

105       (B) execute the warrant during the daytime, unless the  
106       judge for good cause expressly authorizes  
107       execution at another time; and

108 (C) return the warrant to the magistrate judge  
 109 designated in the warrant.

110 **(3) *Warrant by Telephonic or Other Means.*** If a  
 111 magistrate judge decides to proceed under Rule  
 112 41(d)(3)(A), the following additional procedures apply:

113 (A) *Preparing a Proposed Duplicate Original*  
 114 *Warrant.* The applicant must prepare a “proposed  
 115 duplicate original warrant” and must read or  
 116 otherwise transmit the contents of that document  
 117 verbatim to the magistrate judge.

118 (B) *Preparing an Original Warrant.* The magistrate  
 119 judge must enter the contents of the proposed  
 120 duplicate original warrant into an original warrant.

121 (C) *Modifications.* The magistrate judge may direct  
 122 the applicant to modify the proposed duplicate  
 123 original warrant. In that case, the judge must also  
 124 modify the original warrant.

125           (D) *Signing the Original Warrant and the Duplicate*  
126           *Original Warrant.* Upon determining to issue the  
127           warrant, the magistrate judge must immediately  
128           sign the original warrant, enter on its face the exact  
129           time it is issued, and direct the applicant to sign the  
130           judge's name on the duplicate original warrant.

131   **(f) Executing and Returning the Warrant.**

132           **(1) *Noting the Time.*** The officer executing the warrant  
133           must enter on its face the exact date and time it is  
134           executed.

135           **(2) *Inventory.*** An officer present during the execution of  
136           the warrant must prepare and verify an inventory of any  
137           property seized. The officer must do so in the presence  
138           of another officer and the person from whom, or from  
139           whose premises, the property was taken. If either one  
140           is not present, the officer must prepare and verify the



141 inventory in the presence of at least one other credible  
142 person.

143 **(3) *Receipt.*** The officer executing the warrant must:

144 (A) give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the  
145 property taken to the person from whom, or from  
146 whose premises, the property was taken; or

147 (B) leave a copy of the warrant and receipt at the place  
148 where the officer took the property.

149 **(4) *Return.*** The officer executing the warrant must  
150 promptly return it — together with a copy of the  
151 inventory — to the magistrate judge designated on the  
152 warrant. The judge must, on request, give a copy of the  
153 inventory to the person from whom, or from whose  
154 premises, the property was taken and to the applicant  
155 for the warrant.

156 **(g) Motion to Return Property.** A person aggrieved by an  
157 unlawful search and seizure of property or by the

158 deprivation of property may move for the property's return.

159 The motion must be filed in the district where the property

160 was seized. The court must receive evidence on any factual

161 issue necessary to decide the motion. If it grants the motion,

162 the court must return the property to the movant, but may

163 impose reasonable conditions to protect access to the

164 property and its use in later proceedings.

165 **(h) Motion to Suppress.** A defendant may move to suppress

166 evidence in the court where the trial will occur, as Rule 12

167 provides.

168 **(i) Forwarding Papers to the Clerk.** The magistrate judge to

169 whom the warrant is returned must attach to the warrant a

170 copy of the return, of the inventory, and of all other related

171 papers and must deliver them to the clerk in the district

172 where the property was seized.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 41 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as otherwise noted below. Rule 41 has been completely reorganized to make it easier to read and apply its key provisions.

Rule 41(b)(3) is a new provision that incorporates a congressional amendment to Rule 41 as a part of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT ACT) Act of 2001. The provision explicitly addresses the authority of a magistrate judge to issue a search warrant in an investigation of domestic or international terrorism. As long as the magistrate judge has authority in a district where activities related to terrorism may have occurred, the magistrate judge may issue a warrant for persons or property not only within the district, but outside the district as well.

Current Rule 41(c)(1), which refers to the fact that hearsay evidence may be used to support probable cause, has been deleted. That language was added to the rule in 1972, apparently to reflect emerging federal case law. *See* Advisory Committee Note to 1972 Amendments to Rule 41 (citing cases). Similar language was added to Rule 4 in 1974. In the intervening years, however, the case law has become perfectly clear on that proposition. Thus, the Committee believed that the reference to hearsay was no longer necessary. Furthermore, the limited reference to hearsay evidence was misleading to the extent that it might have suggested that other forms of inadmissible evidence could not be considered. For example, the rule made no reference to considering a defendant's prior criminal record, which clearly may be considered in deciding whether

probable cause exists. *See, e.g., Brinegar v. United States*, 338 U.S. 160 (1949) (officer's knowledge of defendant's prior criminal activity). Rather than address that issue, or any other similar issues, the Committee believed that the matter was best addressed in Rule 1101(d)(3), Federal Rules of Evidence. That rule explicitly provides that the Federal Rules of Evidence do not apply to "preliminary examinations in criminal cases, . . . issuance of warrants for arrest, criminal summonses, and search warrants ...." The Advisory Committee Note accompanying that rule recognizes that: "The nature of the proceedings makes application of the formal rules of evidence inappropriate and impracticable." The Committee did not intend to make any substantive changes in practice by deleting the reference to hearsay evidence.

Current Rule 41(d) provides that the officer taking the property under the warrant must provide a receipt for the property and complete an inventory. The revised rule indicates that the inventory may be completed by an officer present during the execution of the warrant, and not necessarily the officer actually executing the warrant.

#### **Rule 42. Criminal Contempt**

- 1     **(a) Disposition After Notice.** Any person who commits
- 2             criminal contempt may be punished for that contempt after
- 3             prosecution on notice.
- 4             **(1) Notice.** The court must give the person notice in open
- 5             court, in an order to show cause, or in an arrest order.
- 6             The notice must:

- 7 (A) state the time and place of the trial;
- 8 (B) allow the defendant a reasonable time to prepare a
- 9 defense; and
- 10 (C) state the essential facts constituting the charged
- 11 criminal contempt and describe it as such.

12 **(2) *Appointing a Prosecutor.*** The court must request that

13 the contempt be prosecuted by an attorney for the

14 government, unless the interest of justice requires the

15 appointment of another attorney. If the government

16 declines the request, the court must appoint another

17 attorney to prosecute the contempt.

18 **(3) *Trial and Disposition.*** A person being prosecuted for

19 criminal contempt is entitled to a jury trial in any case

20 in which federal law so provides and must be released

21 or detained as Rule 46 provides. If the criminal

22 contempt involves disrespect toward or criticism of a

23 judge, that judge is disqualified from presiding at the

24 contempt trial or hearing unless the defendant consents.

25 Upon a finding or verdict of guilty, the court must

26 impose the punishment.

27 **(b) Summary Disposition.** Notwithstanding any other

28 provision of these rules, the court (other than a magistrate

29 judge) may summarily punish a person who commits

30 criminal contempt in its presence if the judge saw or heard

31 the contemptuous conduct and so certifies; a magistrate

32 judge may summarily punish a person as provided in 28

33 U.S.C. § 636(e). The contempt order must recite the facts,

34 be signed by the judge, and be filed with the clerk.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 42 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

The revised rule is intended to more clearly set out the procedures for conducting a criminal contempt proceeding. The current rule implicitly recognizes that an attorney for the government

may be involved in the prosecution of such cases. Revised Rule 42(a)(2) now explicitly addresses the appointment of a “prosecutor” and adopts language to reflect the holding in *Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton*, 481 U.S. 787 (1987). In that case the Supreme Court indicated that ordinarily the court should request that an attorney for the government prosecute the contempt; only if that request is denied, should the court appoint a private prosecutor. The rule envisions that a disinterested counsel should be appointed to prosecute the contempt.

Rule 42(b) has been amended to make it clear that a court may summarily punish a person for committing contempt in the court’s presence without regard to whether other rules, such as Rule 32 (sentencing procedures), might otherwise apply. *See, e.g., United States v. Martin-Trigona*, 759 F.2d 1017 (2d Cir. 1985). Further, Rule 42(b) has been amended to recognize the contempt powers of a court (other than a magistrate judge) and a magistrate judge.

## TITLE IX. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Rule 43. Defendant’s Presence

- 1     **(a) When Required.** Unless this rule, Rule 5, or Rule 10
- 2             provides otherwise, the defendant must be present at:
- 3             **(1)** the initial appearance, the initial arraignment, and the
- 4             plea;
- 5             **(2)** every trial stage, including jury impanelment and the
- 6             return of the verdict; and

7       **(3)** sentencing.

8       **(b) When Not Required.** A defendant need not be present  
9       under any of the following circumstances:

10       **(1) *Organizational Defendant.*** The defendant is an  
11       organization represented by counsel who is present.

12       **(2) *Misdemeanor Offense.*** The offense is punishable by  
13       fine or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or  
14       both, and with the defendant's written consent, the  
15       court permits arraignment, plea, trial, and sentencing to  
16       occur in the defendant's absence.

17       **(3) *Conference or Hearing on a Legal Question.*** The  
18       proceeding involves only a conference or hearing on a  
19       question of law.

20       **(4) *Sentence Correction.*** The proceeding involves the  
21       correction or reduction of sentence under Rule 35 or 18  
22       U.S.C. § 3582(c).



23 **(c) Waiving Continued Presence.**

24 **(1) *In General.*** A defendant who was initially present at  
 25 trial, or who had pleaded guilty or nolo contendere,  
 26 waives the right to be present under the following  
 27 circumstances:

28 (A) when the defendant is voluntarily absent after the  
 29 trial has begun, regardless of whether the court  
 30 informed the defendant of an obligation to remain  
 31 during trial;

32 (B) in a noncapital case, when the defendant is  
 33 voluntarily absent during sentencing; or

34 (C) when the court warns the defendant that it will  
 35 remove the defendant from the courtroom for  
 36 disruptive behavior, but the defendant persists in  
 37 conduct that justifies removal from the courtroom.

38 **(2) *Waiver's Effect.*** If the defendant waives the right to be  
 39 present, the trial may proceed to completion, including

40 the verdict's return and sentencing, during the  
41 defendant's absence.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 43 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

The first substantive change is reflected in Rule 43(a), which recognizes several exceptions to the requirement that a defendant must be present in court for all proceedings. In addition to referring to exceptions that might exist in Rule 43 itself, the amendment recognizes that a defendant need not be present when the court has permitted video teleconferencing procedures under Rules 5 and 10 or when the defendant has waived the right to be present for the arraignment under Rule 10. Second, by inserting the word "initial" before "arraignment," revised Rule 43(a)(1) reflects the view that a defendant need not be present for subsequent arraignments based upon a superseding indictment.

The Rule has been reorganized to make it easier to read and apply; revised Rule 43(b) is former Rule 43(c).

### **Rule 44. Right to and Appointment of Counsel**

1 **(a) Right to Appointed Counsel.** A defendant who is unable  
2 to obtain counsel is entitled to have counsel appointed to

3 represent the defendant at every stage of the proceeding  
4 from initial appearance through appeal, unless the defendant  
5 waives this right.

6 **(b) Appointment Procedure.** Federal law and local court rules  
7 govern the procedure for implementing the right to counsel.

8 **(c) Inquiry Into Joint Representation.**

9 **(1) Joint Representation.** Joint representation occurs  
10 when:

11 (A) two or more defendants have been charged jointly  
12 under Rule 8(b) or have been joined for trial under  
13 Rule 13; and

14 (B) the defendants are represented by the same  
15 counsel, or counsel who are associated in law  
16 practice.

17 **(2) Court's Responsibilities in Cases of Joint**  
18 **Representation.** The court must promptly inquire  
19 about the propriety of joint representation and must

20 personally advise each defendant of the right to the  
21 effective assistance of counsel, including separate  
22 representation. Unless there is good cause to believe  
23 that no conflict of interest is likely to arise, the court  
24 must take appropriate measures to protect each  
25 defendant's right to counsel.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 44 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

Revised Rule 44 now refers to the “appointment” of counsel, rather than the assignment of counsel; the Committee believed the former term was more appropriate. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. In Rule 44(c), the term “retained or assigned” has been deleted as being unnecessary, without changing the court’s responsibility to conduct an inquiry where joint representation occurs.

#### **Rule 45. Computing and Extending Time**

- 1 **(a) Computing Time.** The following rules apply in computing  
2 any period of time specified in these rules, any local rule, or  
3 any court order:

4       **(1) *Day of the Event Excluded.*** Exclude the day of the act,  
5               event, or default that begins the period.

6       **(2) *Exclusion from Brief Periods.*** Exclude intermediate  
7               Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays when the period  
8               is less than 11 days.

9       **(3) *Last Day.*** Include the last day of the period unless it is  
10              a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday, or day on which  
11              weather or other conditions make the clerk’s office  
12              inaccessible. When the last day is excluded, the period  
13              runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday,  
14              Sunday, legal holiday, or day when the clerk’s office is  
15              inaccessible.

16       **(4) *“Legal Holiday” Defined.*** As used in this rule, “legal  
17              holiday” means:

18              (A) the day set aside by statute for observing:

19                      (i) New Year’s Day;

20                      (ii) Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday;

- 21 (iii) Washington's Birthday;
- 22 (iv) Memorial Day;
- 23 (v) Independence Day;
- 24 (vi) Labor Day;
- 25 (vii) Columbus Day;
- 26 (viii) Veterans' Day;
- 27 (ix) Thanksgiving Day;
- 28 (x) Christmas Day; and
- 29 (B) any other day declared a holiday by the President,
- 30 the Congress, or the state where the district court is
- 31 held.

32 **(b) Extending Time.**

- 33 **(1) *In General.*** When an act must or may be done within
- 34 a specified period, the court on its own may extend the
- 35 time, or for good cause may do so on a party's motion
- 36 made:

37 (A) before the originally prescribed or previously  
 38 extended time expires; or

39 (B) after the time expires if the party failed to act  
 40 because of excusable neglect.

41 **(2) *Exceptions.*** The court may not extend the time to take  
 42 any action under Rules 29, 33, 34, and 35, except as  
 43 stated in those rules.

44 **(c) *Additional Time After Service.*** When these rules permit  
 45 or require a party to act within a specified period after a  
 46 notice or a paper has been served on that party, 3 days are  
 47 added to the period if service occurs in the manner provided  
 48 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(b)(2)(B), (C), or  
 49 (D).

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 45 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

The additional three days provided by Rule 45(c) is extended to the means of service authorized by the new paragraph (D) added to Rule 5(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including — with the consent of the person served — service by electronic means. The means of service authorized in civil actions apply to criminal cases under Rule 49 (b).

Rule 45(d), which governs the timing of written motions and affidavits, has been moved to Rule 47.

**Rule 46. Release from Custody; Supervising Detention**

- 1    **(a) Before Trial.** The provisions of 18 U.S.C. §§ 3142 and  
2        3144 govern pretrial release.
- 3    **(b) During Trial.** A person released before trial continues on  
4        release during trial under the same terms and conditions.  
5        But the court may order different terms and conditions or  
6        terminate the release if necessary to ensure that the person  
7        will be present during trial or that the person’s conduct will  
8        not obstruct the orderly and expeditious progress of the trial.
- 9    **(c) Pending Sentencing or Appeal.** The provisions of 18  
10       U.S.C. § 3143 govern release pending sentencing or appeal.  
11       The burden of establishing that the defendant will not flee



12        or pose a danger to any other person or to the community  
13        rests with the defendant.

14        **(d) Pending Hearing on a Violation of Probation or**  
15        **Supervised Release.** Rule 32.1(a)(6) governs release  
16        pending a hearing on a violation of probation or supervised  
17        release.

18        **(e) Surety.** The court must not approve a bond unless any  
19        surety appears to be qualified. Every surety, except a  
20        legally approved corporate surety, must demonstrate by  
21        affidavit that its assets are adequate. The court may require  
22        the affidavit to describe the following:

- 23        **(1)** the property that the surety proposes to use as security;  
24        **(2)** any encumbrance on that property;  
25        **(3)** the number and amount of any other undischarged  
26        bonds and bail undertakings the surety has issued; and  
27        **(4)** any other liability of the surety.

28        **(f) Bail Forfeiture.**

29       **(1) *Declaration.*** The court must declare the bail forfeited  
30               if a condition of the bond is breached.

31       **(2) *Setting Aside.*** The court may set aside in whole or in  
32               part a bail forfeiture upon any condition the court may  
33               impose if:

34               (A) the surety later surrenders into custody the person  
35               released on the surety's appearance bond; or

36               (B) it appears that justice does not require bail  
37               forfeiture.

38       **(3) *Enforcement.***

39               (A) *Default Judgment and Execution.* If it does not set  
40               aside a bail forfeiture, the court must, upon the  
41               government's motion, enter a default judgment.

42               (B) *Jurisdiction and Service.* By entering into a bond,  
43               each surety submits to the district court's  
44               jurisdiction and irrevocably appoints the district

45 clerk as its agent to receive service of any filings  
46 affecting its liability.

47 (C) *Motion to Enforce.* The court may, upon the  
48 government's motion, enforce the surety's liability  
49 without an independent action. The government  
50 must serve any motion, and notice as the court  
51 prescribes, on the district clerk. If so served, the  
52 clerk must promptly mail a copy to the surety at its  
53 last known address.

54 (4) *Remission.* After entering a judgment under Rule  
55 46(f)(3), the court may remit in whole or in part the  
56 judgment under the same conditions specified in Rule  
57 46(f)(2).

58 (g) *Exoneration.* The court must exonerate the surety and  
59 release any bail when a bond condition has been satisfied or  
60 when the court has set aside or remitted the forfeiture. The  
61 court must exonerate a surety who deposits cash in the

62 amount of the bond or timely surrenders the defendant into  
63 custody.

64 **(h) Supervising Detention Pending Trial.**

65 **(1) *In General.*** To eliminate unnecessary detention, the  
66 court must supervise the detention within the district of  
67 any defendants awaiting trial and of any persons held as  
68 material witnesses.

69 **(2) *Reports.*** An attorney for the government must report  
70 biweekly to the court, listing each material witness held  
71 in custody for more than 10 days pending indictment,  
72 arraignment, or trial. For each material witness listed  
73 in the report, an attorney for the government must state  
74 why the witness should not be released with or without  
75 a deposition being taken under Rule 15(a).

76 **(i) Forfeiture of Property.** The court may dispose of a  
77 charged offense by ordering the forfeiture of 18 U.S.C.  
78 § 3142(c)(1)(B)(xi) property under 18 U.S.C. § 3146(d), if

79 a fine in the amount of the property's value would be an  
80 appropriate sentence for the charged offense.

81 **(j) Producing a Statement.**

82 **(1) *In General.*** Rule 26.2(a)-(d) and (f) applies at a  
83 detention hearing under 18 U.S.C. § 3142, unless the  
84 court for good cause rules otherwise.

85 **(2) *Sanctions for Not Producing a Statement.*** If a party  
86 disobeys a Rule 26.2 order to produce a witness's  
87 statement, the court must not consider that witness's  
88 testimony at the detention hearing.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 46 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

Although the general rule is that an appeal to a circuit court deprives the district court of jurisdiction, Rule 46(c) recognizes the apparent exception to that rule — that the district court retains jurisdiction to decide whether the defendant should be detained, even if a notice of appeal has been filed. *See, e.g., United States v. Meyers,*

95 F.3d 1475 (10th Cir. 1996), *cert. denied*, 522 U.S. 1006 (1997) (initial decision of whether to release defendant pending appeal is to be made by district court); *United States v. Affleck*, 765 F.2d 944 (10th Cir. 1985); *Jago v. United States District Court*, 570 F.2d 618 (6th Cir. 1978) (release of defendant pending appeal must first be sought in district court). *See also* Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 9(b) and the accompanying Committee Note.

Revised Rule 46(h) deletes the requirement that the attorney for the government file bi-weekly reports with the court concerning the status of any defendants in pretrial detention. The Committee believed that the requirement was no longer necessary in light of the Speedy Trial Act provisions. 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161, et seq. On the other hand, the requirement that the attorney for the government file reports regarding detained material witnesses has been retained in the rule.

Rule 46(i) addresses the ability of a court to order forfeiture of property where a defendant has failed to appear as required by the court. The language in the current rule, Rule 46(h), was originally included by Congress. The new language has been restyled with no change in substance or practice intended. Under this provision, the court may only forfeit property as permitted under 18 U.S.C. §§ 3146(d) and 3142(c)(1)(B)(xi). The term “appropriate sentence” means a sentence that is consistent with the Sentencing Guidelines.

#### **Rule 47. Motions and Supporting Affidavits**

- 1     **(a) In General.** A party applying to the court for an order must
- 2             do so by motion.

3 **(b) Form and Content of a Motion.** A motion — except when  
 4 made during a trial or hearing — must be in writing, unless  
 5 the court permits the party to make the motion by other  
 6 means. A motion must state the grounds on which it is  
 7 based and the relief or order sought. A motion may be  
 8 supported by affidavit.

9 **(c) Timing of a Motion.** A party must serve a written  
 10 motion — other than one that the court may hear ex parte —  
 11 and any hearing notice at least 5 days before the hearing  
 12 date, unless a rule or court order sets a different period. For  
 13 good cause, the court may set a different period upon ex  
 14 parte application.

15 **(d) Affidavit Supporting a Motion.** The moving party must  
 16 serve any supporting affidavit with the motion. A  
 17 responding party must serve any opposing affidavit at least  
 18 one day before the hearing, unless the court permits later  
 19 service.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 47 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

In Rule 47(b), the word “orally” has been deleted. The Committee believed, first, that the term should not act as a limitation on those who are not able to speak orally and, second, a court may wish to entertain motions through electronic or other reliable means. Deletion of the term also comports with a similar change in Rule 26, regarding the taking of testimony during trial. In place of that word, the Committee substituted the broader phrase “by other means.”

#### Rule 48. Dismissal

- 1     **(a) By the Government.** The government may, with leave of  
2         court, dismiss an indictment, information, or complaint.  
3         The government may not dismiss the prosecution during  
4         trial without the defendant’s consent.
- 5     **(b) By the Court.** The court may dismiss an indictment,  
6         information, or complaint if unnecessary delay occurs in:
  - 7         **(1)** presenting a charge to a grand jury;
  - 8         **(2)** filing an information against a defendant; or



- 9           **(3)** bringing a defendant to trial.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 48 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

The Committee considered the relationship between Rule 48(b) and the Speedy Trial Act. *See* 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161, et seq. Rule 48(b), of course, operates independently from the Act. *See, e.g., United States v. Goodson*, 204 F.3d 508 (4th Cir. 2000) (noting purpose of Rule 48(b)); *United States v. Carlone*, 666 F.2d 1112, 1116 (7th Cir. 1981) (suggesting that Rule 48(b) could provide an alternate basis in an extreme case to dismiss an indictment, without reference to Speedy Trial Act); *United States v. Balochi*, 527 F.2d 562, 563-64 (4th Cir. 1976) (per curiam) (Rule 48(b) is broader in compass). In re-promulgating Rule 48(b), the Committee intends no change in the relationship between that rule and the Speedy Trial Act.

### Rule 49. Serving and Filing Papers

- 1           **(a) When Required.** A party must serve on every other party  
2           any written motion (other than one to be heard ex parte),  
3           written notice, designation of the record on appeal, or  
4           similar paper.

5     **(b) How Made.** Service must be made in the manner provided  
6           for a civil action. When these rules or a court order requires  
7           or permits service on a party represented by an attorney,  
8           service must be made on the attorney instead of the party,  
9           unless the court orders otherwise.

10    **(c) Notice of a Court Order.** When the court issues an order  
11           on any post-arraignment motion, the clerk must provide  
12           notice in a manner provided for in a civil action. Except as  
13           Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(b) provides  
14           otherwise, the clerk's failure to give notice does not affect  
15           the time to appeal, or relieve — or authorize the court to  
16           relieve — a party's failure to appeal within the allowed  
17           time.

18    **(d) Filing.** A party must file with the court a copy of any paper  
19           the party is required to serve. A paper must be filed in a  
20           manner provided for in a civil action.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 49 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules.

Rule 49(c) has been amended to reflect proposed changes in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that permit (but do not require) a court to provide notice of its orders and judgments through electronic means. *See* Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b) and 77(d). As amended, Rule 49(c) now parallels a similar extant provision in Rule 49(b), regarding service of papers.

#### **Rule 50. Prompt Disposition**

- 1       Scheduling preference must be given to criminal
- 2       proceedings as far as practicable.

#### **COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 50 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

The first sentence in current Rule 50(a), which says that a court may place criminal proceedings on a calendar, has been deleted. The Committee believed that the sentence simply stated a truism and was no longer necessary.

Current Rule 50(b), which simply mirrors 18 U.S.C. § 3165, has been deleted in its entirety. The rule was added in 1971 to meet congressional concerns in pending legislation about deadlines in

criminal cases. Provisions governing deadlines were later enacted by Congress and protections were provided in the Speedy Trial Act. The Committee concluded that in light of those enactments, Rule 50(b) was no longer necessary.

### **Rule 51. Preserving Claimed Error**

- 1    **(a) Exceptions Unnecessary.** Exceptions to rulings or orders  
2        of the court are unnecessary.
- 3    **(b) Preserving a Claim of Error.** A party may preserve a  
4        claim of error by informing the court — when the court  
5        ruling or order is made or sought — of the action the party  
6        wishes the court to take, or the party’s objection to the  
7        court’s action and the grounds for that objection. If a party  
8        does not have an opportunity to object to a ruling or order,  
9        the absence of an objection does not later prejudice that  
10       party. A ruling or order that admits or excludes evidence is  
11       governed by Federal Rule of Evidence 103.

### **COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 51 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

The Rule includes a new sentence that explicitly states that any rulings regarding evidence are governed by Federal Rule of Evidence 103. The sentence was added because of concerns about the Supersession Clause, 28 U.S.C. § 2072(b), of the Rules Enabling Act, and the possibility that an argument might have been made that Congressional approval of this rule would supersede that Rule of Evidence.

#### **Rule 52. Harmless and Plain Error**

- 1     **(a) Harmless Error.** Any error, defect, irregularity, or variance
- 2             that does not affect substantial rights must be disregarded.
- 3     **(b) Plain Error.** A plain error that affects substantial rights
- 4             may be considered even though it was not brought to the
- 5             court's attention.

#### **COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 52 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

Rule 52(b) has been amended by deleting the words “or defect” after the words “plain error.” The change is intended to remove any ambiguity in the rule. As noted by the Supreme Court, the language “plain error or defect” was misleading to the extent that it might be read in the disjunctive. *See United States v. Olano*, 507 U.S. 725, 732 (1993) (incorrect to read Rule 52(b) in the disjunctive); *United States v. Young*, 470 U.S. 1, 15 n. 12 (1985) (use of disjunctive in Rule 52(b) is misleading).

**Rule 53. Courtroom Photographing and Broadcasting Prohibited**

- 1        Except as otherwise provided by a statute or these rules, the
- 2        court must not permit the taking of photographs in the courtroom
- 3        during judicial proceedings or the broadcasting of judicial
- 4        proceedings from the courtroom.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 53 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only, except as noted below.

Although the word “radio” has been deleted from the rule, the Committee does not believe that the amendment is a substantive change but rather one that accords with judicial interpretation applying the current rule to other forms of broadcasting and functionally equivalent means. *See, e.g., United States v. Hastings*,

695 F.2d 1278, 1279, n. 5 (11th Cir. 1983) (television proceedings prohibited); *United States v. McVeigh*, 931 F. Supp. 753 (D. Colo. 1996) (release of tape recordings of proceedings prohibited). Given modern technology capabilities, the Committee believed that a more generalized reference to “broadcasting” is appropriate.

Also, although the revised rule does not explicitly recognize exceptions within the rules themselves, the restyled rule recognizes that other rules might permit, for example, video teleconferencing, which clearly involves “broadcasting” of the proceedings, even if only for limited purposes.

**Rule 54. [Transferred]<sup>1</sup>**

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

Certain provisions in current Rule 54 have been moved to revised Rule 1 as part of a general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. Other provisions in Rule 54 have been deleted as being unnecessary.

**Rule 55. Records**

- 1       The clerk of the district court must keep records of criminal
- 2       proceedings in the form prescribed by the Director of the
- 3       Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The clerk

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<sup>1</sup>All of Rule 54 was moved to Rule 1.

- 1 must enter in the records every court order or judgment and the  
2 date of entry.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 55 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

#### Rule 56. When Court Is Open

- 1 **(a) In General.** A district court is considered always open for  
2 any filing, and for issuing and returning process, making a  
3 motion, or entering an order.
- 4 **(b) Office Hours.** The clerk's office — with the clerk or a  
5 deputy in attendance — must be open during business hours  
6 on all days except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.
- 7 **(c) Special Hours.** A court may provide by local rule or order  
8 that its clerk's office will be open for specified hours on  
9 Saturdays or legal holidays other than those set aside  
10 by statute for observing New Year's Day, Martin Luther



11 King, Jr.'s Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial  
12 Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day,  
13 Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 56 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

#### **Rule 57. District Court Rules**

1 **(a) In General.**

2 **(1) *Adopting Local Rules.*** Each district court acting by a  
3 majority of its district judges may, after giving  
4 appropriate public notice and an opportunity to  
5 comment, make and amend rules governing its practice.  
6 A local rule must be consistent with — but not  
7 duplicative of — federal statutes and rules adopted  
8 under 28 U.S.C. § 2072 and must conform to any

9 uniform numbering system prescribed by the Judicial  
10 Conference of the United States.

11 **(2) *Limiting Enforcement.*** A local rule imposing a  
12 requirement of form must not be enforced in a manner  
13 that causes a party to lose rights because of an  
14 unintentional failure to comply with the requirement.

15 **(b) Procedure When There Is No Controlling Law.** A judge  
16 may regulate practice in any manner consistent with federal  
17 law, these rules, and the local rules of the district. No  
18 sanction or other disadvantage may be imposed for  
19 noncompliance with any requirement not in federal law,  
20 federal rules, or the local district rules unless the alleged  
21 violator was furnished with actual notice of the requirement  
22 before the noncompliance.

23 **(c) Effective Date and Notice.** A local rule adopted under this  
24 rule takes effect on the date specified by the district court  
25 and remains in effect unless amended by the district court or

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26        abrogated by the judicial council of the circuit in which the  
27        district is located. Copies of local rules and their  
28        amendments, when promulgated, must be furnished to the  
29        judicial council and the Administrative Office of the United  
30        States Courts and must be made available to the public.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

The language of Rule 57 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

**Rule 58. Petty Offenses and Other Misdemeanors**1    **(a) Scope.**

2           **(1) *In General.*** These rules apply in petty offense and  
3           other misdemeanor cases and on appeal to a district  
4           judge in a case tried by a magistrate judge, unless this  
5           rule provides otherwise.

6           **(2) *Petty Offense Case Without Imprisonment.*** In a case  
7           involving a petty offense for which no sentence of  
8           imprisonment will be imposed, the court may follow  
9           any provision of these rules that is not inconsistent with  
10          this rule and that the court considers appropriate.

11          **(3) *Definition.*** As used in this rule, the term “petty offense  
12          for which no sentence of imprisonment will be

13 imposed” means a petty offense for which the court  
 14 determines that, in the event of conviction, no sentence  
 15 of imprisonment will be imposed.

16 **(b) Pretrial Procedure.**

17 **(1) *Charging Document.*** The trial of a misdemeanor may  
 18 proceed on an indictment, information, or complaint.  
 19 The trial of a petty offense may also proceed on a  
 20 citation or violation notice.

21 **(2) *Initial Appearance.*** At the defendant’s initial  
 22 appearance on a petty offense or other misdemeanor  
 23 charge, the magistrate judge must inform the defendant  
 24 of the following:

25 (A) the charge, and the minimum and maximum  
 26 penalties, including imprisonment, fines, any  
 27 special assessment under 18 U.S.C. § 3013, and  
 28 restitution under 18 U.S.C. § 3556;

29 (B) the right to retain counsel;

- 30 (C) the right to request the appointment of counsel if  
31 the defendant is unable to retain counsel — unless  
32 the charge is a petty offense for which the  
33 appointment of counsel is not required;
- 34 (D) the defendant’s right not to make a statement, and  
35 that any statement made may be used against the  
36 defendant;
- 37 (E) the right to trial, judgment, and sentencing before  
38 a district judge — unless:
- 39 (i) the charge is a petty offense; or  
40 (ii) the defendant consents to trial, judgment, and  
41 sentencing before a magistrate judge;
- 42 (F) the right to a jury trial before either a magistrate  
43 judge or a district judge — unless the charge is a  
44 petty offense; and
- 45 (G) if the defendant is held in custody and charged  
46 with a misdemeanor other than a petty offense, the

47 right to a preliminary hearing under Rule 5.1, and  
48 the general circumstances, if any, under which the  
49 defendant may secure pretrial release.

50 **(3) *Arraignment.***

51 (A) *Plea Before a Magistrate Judge.* A magistrate  
52 judge may take the defendant's plea in a petty  
53 offense case. In every other misdemeanor case, a  
54 magistrate judge may take the plea only if the  
55 defendant consents either in writing or on the  
56 record to be tried before a magistrate judge and  
57 specifically waives trial before a district judge.  
58 The defendant may plead not guilty, guilty, or  
59 (with the consent of the magistrate judge) nolo  
60 contendere.

61 (B) *Failure to Consent.* Except in a petty offense case,  
62 the magistrate judge must order a defendant who  
63 does not consent to trial before a magistrate judge

64 to appear before a district judge for further  
65 proceedings.

66 **(c) Additional Procedures in Certain Petty Offense Cases.**

67 The following procedures also apply in a case involving a  
68 petty offense for which no sentence of imprisonment will be  
69 imposed:

70 **(1) *Guilty or Nolo Contendere Plea.*** The court must not  
71 accept a guilty or nolo contendere plea unless satisfied  
72 that the defendant understands the nature of the charge  
73 and the maximum possible penalty.

74 **(2) *Waiving Venue.***

75 **(A) *Conditions of Waiving Venue.*** If a defendant is  
76 arrested, held, or present in a district different from  
77 the one where the indictment, information,  
78 complaint, citation, or violation notice is pending,  
79 the defendant may state in writing a desire to plead  
80 guilty or nolo contendere; to waive venue and trial



81 in the district where the proceeding is pending; and  
82 to consent to the court's disposing of the case in  
83 the district where the defendant was arrested, is  
84 held, or is present.

85 (B) *Effect of Waiving Venue.* Unless the defendant  
86 later pleads not guilty, the prosecution will proceed  
87 in the district where the defendant was arrested, is  
88 held, or is present. The district clerk must notify  
89 the clerk in the original district of the defendant's  
90 waiver of venue. The defendant's statement of a  
91 desire to plead guilty or nolo contendere is not  
92 admissible against the defendant.

93 (3) *Sentencing.* The court must give the defendant an  
94 opportunity to be heard in mitigation and then proceed  
95 immediately to sentencing. The court may, however,  
96 postpone sentencing to allow the probation service to

97           investigate or to permit either party to submit additional  
98           information.

99           **(4) *Notice of a Right to Appeal.*** After imposing sentence  
100           in a case tried on a not-guilty plea, the court must  
101           advise the defendant of a right to appeal the conviction  
102           and of any right to appeal the sentence. If the defendant  
103           was convicted on a plea of guilty or nolo contendere,  
104           the court must advise the defendant of any right to  
105           appeal the sentence.

106           **(d) Paying a Fixed Sum in Lieu of Appearance.**

107           **(1) *In General.*** If the court has a local rule governing  
108           forfeiture of collateral, the court may accept a fixed-  
109           sum payment in lieu of the defendant's appearance and  
110           end the case, but the fixed sum may not exceed the  
111           maximum fine allowed by law.

112           **(2) *Notice to Appear.*** If the defendant fails to pay a fixed  
113           sum, request a hearing, or appear in response to a

114 citation or violation notice, the district clerk or a  
115 magistrate judge may issue a notice for the defendant to  
116 appear before the court on a date certain. The notice  
117 may give the defendant an additional opportunity to pay  
118 a fixed sum in lieu of appearance. The district clerk  
119 must serve the notice on the defendant by mailing a  
120 copy to the defendant's last known address.

121 **(3) *Summons or Warrant.*** Upon an indictment, or upon a  
122 showing by one of the other charging documents  
123 specified in Rule 58(b)(1) of probable cause to believe  
124 that an offense has been committed and that the  
125 defendant has committed it, the court may issue an  
126 arrest warrant or, if no warrant is requested by an  
127 attorney for the government, a summons. The showing  
128 of probable cause must be made under oath or under  
129 penalty of perjury, but the affiant need not appear  
130 before the court. If the defendant fails to appear before

131 the court in response to a summons, the court may  
132 summarily issue a warrant for the defendant's arrest.

133 **(e) Recording the Proceedings.** The court must record any  
134 proceedings under this rule by using a court reporter or a  
135 suitable recording device.

136 **(f) New Trial.** Rule 33 applies to a motion for a new trial.

137 **(g) Appeal.**

138 **(1) *From a District Judge's Order or Judgment.*** The  
139 Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure govern an appeal  
140 from a district judge's order or a judgment of  
141 conviction or sentence.

142 **(2) *From a Magistrate Judge's Order or Judgment.***

143 **(A) *Interlocutory Appeal.*** Either party may appeal an  
144 order of a magistrate judge to a district judge  
145 within 10 days of its entry if a district judge's  
146 order could similarly be appealed. The party  
147 appealing must file a notice with the clerk

148 specifying the order being appealed and must serve  
 149 a copy on the adverse party.

150 (B) *Appeal from a Conviction or Sentence.* A  
 151 defendant may appeal a magistrate judge's  
 152 judgment of conviction or sentence to a district  
 153 judge within 10 days of its entry. To appeal, the  
 154 defendant must file a notice with the clerk  
 155 specifying the judgment being appealed and must  
 156 serve a copy on an attorney for the government.

157 (C) *Record.* The record consists of the original papers  
 158 and exhibits in the case; any transcript, tape, or  
 159 other recording of the proceedings; and a certified  
 160 copy of the docket entries. For purposes of the  
 161 appeal, a copy of the record of the proceedings  
 162 must be made available to a defendant who  
 163 establishes by affidavit an inability to pay or give  
 164 security for the record. The Director of the

165                   Administrative Office of the United States Courts  
166                   must pay for those copies.

167                   (D) *Scope of Appeal.* The defendant is not entitled to  
168                   a trial de novo by a district judge. The scope of the  
169                   appeal is the same as in an appeal to the court of  
170                   appeals from a judgment entered by a district  
171                   judge.

172                   (3) *Stay of Execution and Release Pending Appeal.* Rule  
173                   38 applies to a stay of a judgment of conviction or  
174                   sentence. The court may release the defendant pending  
175                   appeal under the law relating to release pending appeal  
176                   from a district court to a court of appeals.

#### COMMITTEE NOTE

The language of Rule 58 has been amended as part of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules to make them more easily understood and to make style and terminology consistent throughout the rules. These changes are intended to be stylistic only.

The title of the rule has been changed to “Petty Offenses and Other Misdemeanors.” In Rule 58(c)(2)(B) (regarding waiver of

venue), the Committee amended the rule to require that the “district clerk,” instead of the magistrate judge, inform the original district clerk if the defendant waives venue and the prosecution proceeds in the district where the defendant was arrested. The Committee intends no change in practice.

In Rule 58(g)(1) and (g)(2)(A), the Committee deleted as unnecessary the word “decision” because its meaning is covered by existing references to an “order, judgment, or sentence” by a district judge or magistrate judge. In the Committee’s view, deletion of that term does not amount to a substantive change.

**Rule 59. [Deleted]**

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

Rule 59, which dealt with the effective date of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, is no longer necessary and has been deleted.

**Rule 60. Title**

- 1 These rules may be known and cited as the Federal Rules of
- 2 Criminal Procedure.

**COMMITTEE NOTE**

No changes have been made to Rule 60, as a result of the general restyling of the Criminal Rules.